

Safety & Transportation Committee Meeting
1 February 2007
MINUTES

Chairman Tarr called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Present: Hon. John H. Tarr, Chairman
Hon. David Ross
Hon. Glenn Wolffe

Others Present:
Mr. John Nelson Jester

Mr. Rob Ritter, Town Manager
Mr. Edward Lewis, Chief of Police
Mr. Bryan Rush, Emerg. Svcs. Coord.
Mr. Jack Van Dame, Trolley Manager

Dr. Wolffe motioned, seconded by Mr. Ross, to adopt the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

1. Emergency Management Report

A. Tropical Depression Ernesto – Mr. Rush stated that the Town received \$16,008.03 in relief money for storm cleanup and payroll reimbursement for employee overtime.

B. Planning – Mr. Rush stated that Mr. Jester has been reviewing the Emergency Operations Plan. Mr. Rush also stated that he has been in contact with the National Park Service about their emergency plan.

C. Communications – Mr. Rush stated that the satellite phone service has been renewed for another year due to the receipt of grant monies. He added that both of the Island schools have received NOAA weather radios. Mayor Tarr requested that Mr. Rush obtain a copy of the schools' emergency plans.

D. Training – Mr. Rush stated that an exercise incorporating a scenario of a land-falling hurricane out to a fourteen-day recovery period will be done on March 14 at 9:00 am at the Chincoteague Center. He added that the main function of the exercise is to work through the after-effect of a hurricane.

2. Basic Emergency Operations Plan

Mr. Jester explained his recommendations for the plan. He emphasized the importance of making sure that the community knows about the plan and that the citizens know how to prepare for and react to an emergency situation.

3. Scope of Services, Update the Emergency Operations Plan

Mr. Rush explained that the plan must be rewritten and that he has researched the cost of utilizing outside sources to rewrite the plan since staff currently does not have the time to do so. Dr. Wolffe recommended that Mr. Rush and/or Mr. Ritter research the possibility of obtaining a grant for the cost of rewriting the plan.

4. Trolley Report on 2006 Operating Season

Mr. Van Dame reported on the ridership of the trolleys. He also informed the Committee about the grant monies received and the revenues earned during the 2006 trolley program. Mr. Van Dame discussed several items that need to be implemented for the 2007 season, including having a separate trolley dispatcher, changing the trolley routes and utilizing a wheelchair-accessible Dodge Caravan.

Mayor Tarr stated that he and Mr. Van Dame have met with the History Tour volunteers in preparation for the 2007 season. He also stated that a bench will be placed in front of the Chincoteague Center for the convenience of those waiting for the History Tour.

5. Closed Meeting in Accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia for Discussion of Police Legal Matters

Dr. Wolffe motioned, seconded by Mr. Ross, to convene a closed meeting under Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia to discuss police legal matters. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Ross motioned, seconded by Dr. Wolffe, to reconvene in regular session. The motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Wolffe motioned, seconded by Mr. Ross, to adopt a resolution of certification of the closed meeting.

WHEREAS, the Chincoteague Safety and Transportation Committee has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Committee that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chincoteague Safety and Transportation Committee hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Committee.

VOTE: Ayes- Ross, Tarr, Wolffe,
Nays- None
Absent- None

6. Adjournment.

Mr. Ross motioned, seconded by Dr. Wolffe, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 1, 2007 at 5:30 pm.